

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 167988
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

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NEA:WRCRAWFORD

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE

INFO HORN OF AFRICA COLLECTIVE

S E C R E T STATE 167988

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, SO, US

DEFERRAL OF MILITARY SURVEY TEAM VISIT

REFS: A) STATE 159889 (NOTAL); B) MOGADISCIO 1410 (NOTAL)

1. IN VIEW OF CONTINUING EVIDENCE OF SOMALI INVOLVEMENT
WITH OGADEN INSURGENTS AND HIGH LEVEL OF INSURGENT ACTIVITY
AND CONFLICT IN THE OGADEN AREA, WE HAVE DECIDED TO DEFER

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THE VISIT OF A US MILITARY SURVEY MISSION TO SOMALIA AT
THIS TIME. CHARGE SHOULD ACCORDINGLY SEEK AN IMMEDIATE
APPOINTMENT WITH APPROPRIATE SOMALI OFFICIALS (NOT SIAD)
TO CONVEY FOLLOWING MESSAGE:

A) THE US IS POSTPONING THE VISIT OF THE MILITARY SURVEY
TEAM TO SOMALIA FOR AT LEAST TWO WEEKS.

B) THE US ALSO WISHES TO REGISTER ITS CONCERN AT WHAT IS CURRENTLY HAPPENING IN THE OGADEN AND PARTICULARLY OF REPORTS OF ACTIVITIES OF SOMALIA IN SUPPORTING MILITARY ACTION IN THAT AREA.

C) WE ARE APPREHENSIVE THAT IF THIS CONTINUES, VIOLENCE IN THE AREA WILL CONTINUE TO ESCALATE AND THE CONFLICT WILL

EXPAND. SUCH EXPANSION IS NOT IN THE INTEREST OF ANY OF THE PARTIES INVOLVED.

D) WE WOULD HOPE THAT RESTRAINT ON ALL SIDES CAN BE SHOWN AND CAN CREATE POSSIBILITIES FOR RENEWED PEACE IN THE AREA.

2. FOR JIDDA: IMMEDIATELY ON RECEIPT OF CONFIRMATION FROM MOGADISCIO THAT U.S. MESSAGE HAS BEEN PASSED TO SOMALI GOVERNMENT, YOU SHOULD APPROACH SAUDI GOVERNMENT AT APPROPRIATE LEVEL TO INFORM SAUDIS OF U.S. DECISION. YOU SHOULD EXPLAIN THE REASONS FOR THIS ACTION IN THE TERMS SET FORTH IN INTRODUCTORY PORTION OF PARA. 1 ABOVE, I.E., CONTINUING EVIDENCE OF SOMALI INVOLVEMENT AND HIGH LEVEL OF ACTIVITY AND CONFLICT IN THE OGADEN AREA MAKE A VISIT AT THIS TIME INOPPORTUNE.

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3. FYI: WE RECOGNIZE THAT IN TWO WEEKS WE MAY WELL BE FACED WITH THE SAME PROBLEM WE HAVE TODAY AND IF SO, WE ARE PREPARED TO DELAY STILL FURTHER. THE PRESENT POST-PONEMENT DOES NOT FORESHADOW A DEFINITIVE DECISION PRO OR CON ON THE SURVEY TEAM OR MILITARY ASSISTANCE. VANCE

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